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Rusty Wallace Day In Troy

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(August 10, 2005- TROY)- The City of Troy and Mayor Harry J Tutunjian announced today that Friday will be Rusty Wallace day in the Collar City.

Wallace, 48, is celebrating his final year on the NASCAR circuit after a stellar career that saw him win at least one-cup race over the course of 16 years, including a NASCAR championship in 1989. Wallace will be racing in Watkins Glen this week for the final time in New York. Wallace will also be celebrating his 49th birthday on Sunday.

Deputy Mayor Dan Crawley, an avid supporter of NASCAR, said Wednesday that NASCAR and Rusty Wallace have continually provided family entertainment for decades, and that as Wallace continues his last ride, it is only right to honor him.

"Finding quality entertainment that the entire family can enjoy these days is often difficult," Crawley said. "Rusty Wallace is the perfect example of the values and tradition that NASCAR brings to people around the world each week. Since 1973 we have had the pleasure of watching Rusty race, and he will be sorely missed when he retires later this year."

Since making his debut in Missouri in 1973, Wallace has been a beacon for quality and consistency with his racing. His most memorable season came in 1989 when he sported a remarkable 20 Top Ten finishes in just 29 events in route to winning the NASCAR points championship. Among his other more notable performances were the 16-year winning streak, 200 victories in a four-year span from 1974-1978 and a Rookie of the Year win in 1979.

Tutunjian said Wednesday that he is proud to have Rusty Wallace Day in Troy.

"There are few things more American than car racing," Tutunjian said. "Even way up here in Upstate New York we enjoy the Petty's, Earnhardt's, and of course, the Wallace's. As Rusty prepares to race for the final time in New York State, we want him to know that we're all rooting for him to get the win, and wish him the best of luck in his retirement."